

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 9 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

5 US patent application Ser. No. 09/126,378 of [[to]]
Handelman, now US Patent No. 6,404,522, describes improvements
in communication performance of an optical communication system
that communicates data via N different channel wavelengths using
WDM.

10 Please replace the third full paragraph on page 9 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

 US patent application Ser. No. 09/389,345 of [[to]]
Handelman, now US Patent No. 6,574,018, describes a network
control system that may be embodied in various elements of a
15 communication network that communicates optical signals
multiplexed by WDM. The network control system may limit a
number of channel wavelengths actually used for communicating
optical signals to an end node, and control and modify data rates
carried over channel wavelengths multiplexed by WDM.

20 Please replace the fourth full paragraph on page 9 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

 US patent application Ser. No. 09/624,983 of [[to]]
Handelman, now US Patent No. 6,763,191, describes an optical
switching apparatus that selectively combines and separates series of
25 optical signal samples using OTDM and/or WDM.

Please replace the fifth full paragraph on page 9 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

US patent application Ser. No. 09/976,243 of [[to]] Handelman
et al, now published as Pub. No. US 2002/0048067, describes an
optical switching apparatus that selectively combines and separates,
using OTDM and/or WDM, optical signal samples that are obtained
by a spread spectrum technique or a combination of optical signal
samples that are obtained by a spread spectrum technique and optical
signal samples that are carried over discrete channel wavelengths.

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